

App. No. 10/529,536
Office Action Dated July 16, 2008

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks. Claims 1 and 14 have been amended. The amendments to claim 1 are supported by the original disclosure, for example page 15, line 18-35. Claim 14 has been amended editorially. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-2, 4, 8, 9, and 11-14 are pending.

Claim rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 9 and 11-14 are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The rejection contends that the claims do not include the characteristics disclosed in the paragraph starting on line 18 of page 15 of the specification. Claim 1 has been amended to include the features noted in the rejection. In particular, claim 1 has been limited to a toner containing (1) a binding resin and (2) wax, and is charged negatively. Claim 1 further requires the binding resin to include a polyester resin in which at least one molecular weight maximum peak is in a region of 2×10^3 to 3×10^4 in a molecular weight distribution measured by gel permeation chromatography, in which the content of components in a high molecular weight region with a molecular weight of at least 3×10^4 is at least 5% with respect to the entire binding resin, in which the weight-average molecular weight ranges from 10,000 to 500,000, in which a Z-average molecular weight ranges from 20,000 to 5,000,000, in which a ratio between a weight-average molecular weight and a number-average molecular weight (weight-average molecular weight / number-average molecular weight) ranges from 3 to 150, in which a ratio between the Z-average molecular weight and the number-average molecular weight (Z-average molecular weight / number-average molecular weight) ranges from 10 to 2000, in which the melting temperature ranges from 80°C to 150°C measured by a 1/2 method with a capillary rheometer flow-tester of a constant pushing force type, in which a flow-beginning temperature ranges from 80°C to 120°C, and in which the glass transition point of the resin ranges from 45°C to 68°C. The superior effects when using such a toner in a two-component developer as required by claim 1 have been shown in the Working Examples on pages 23-32 of the specification. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are supported by the specification.

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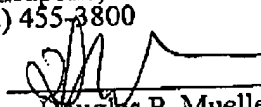
In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested. Any questions or concerns regarding this communication can be directed to the attorney-of-record, Douglas P. Mueller, Reg. No. 30,300, at (612) 455.3804.



Dated: September 10, 2008

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